



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII  
901 NORTH 5TH STREET  
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

**JUN 18 2007**

Mr. Richard Leopold, Director  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources  
Henry A. Wallace Building  
502 East 9<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Leopold:

Re: Approval of TMDL for Iowa River

This letter responds to the submission from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) originally received by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 on March 22, 2007, for a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) document which contained a TMDL for pathogen indicator bacteria (E. coli). Iowa River was identified on the 2004 Iowa §303(d) list as impaired. This submission fulfills the Clean Water Act statutory requirement to develop TMDLs for impairments listed on a state's §303(d) list. The specific impairment (water body segment and pollutant) is:

Water Body Name	WBID	pollutant(s)
Iowa River	IA 02-IOW-0030_2	pathogens (E. coli)

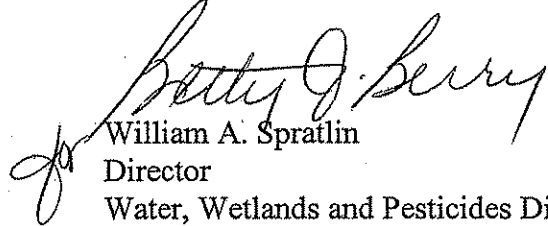
EPA has completed its review of the TMDLs with supporting documentation and information. By this letter, EPA approves the submitted TMDLs. Enclosed with this letter is the Region 7 TMDL Decision Document which summarizes the rationale for EPA's approval of the TMDLs. EPA believes the separate elements of the TMDLs described in the enclosed form adequately address the pollutants of concern, taking into consideration seasonal variation and a margin of safety.

EPA is currently in consultation under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service regarding this TMDL document. While we are approving these TMDLs at the present time, we may decide that changes to the TMDLs are warranted based upon the results of the consultation when it is completed.

We appreciate the thoughtful effort that IDNR has put into these TMDLs. We will

continue to cooperate with and assist, as appropriate, in future efforts by IDNR to develop remaining TMDLs.

Sincerely,

  
William A. Spratlin  
Director  
Water, Wetlands and Pesticides Division

Enclosure

cc: Allen Bonini  
Iowa Department of Natural Resources

Richard Nelson  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Wallace Taylor  
Esq.

Jerry Anderson  
Drake University School of Law

Lawrence McLellan  
Sullivan & Ward P.C.

Michael Breitbach  
Mississippi River Revival

Regina Thiry  
SAILORS, Inc.

Sol Simon  
Mississippi River Revival